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International Court of Justice

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Official transcript of the International Military Tribunal in the matter of: The United States of America, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics against Hermann Wilhelm Goering, et al, Defendants, sitting at Nurnberg, Germany, on February 19, 1946, 1000 - 1245, Lord Justice Lawrence, presiding.

THE PRESIDENT: I have an announcement to make.

The defense motion for a recess cannot be granted. When a recess at Christmas was decided upon the Tribunal informed the Defense Counsel that no further recess would be granted.

As Counsel for the Prosecution has pointed out, Defense Counsel have already had several months in which to prepare their defenses to a case which depends principally upon documents in the German language, written by the defendants themselves or their associates. They have also had constant assistance from the Tribunal and the Prosecution in connection with documentary evidence and witnesses.

The Tribunal has observed that many of the Defense Counsel have already found it possible, quite properly, to absent themselves from Court and the Tribunal sees no reason why some of the time which must elapse for the conclusion of the case for the Prosecution should not be utilized in preparation of their defenses out of Court.

The Tribunal therefore decides that at the conclusion of the Prosecution case against the individual defendants, the argument on the groups or organizations alleged to be criminal shall take place and that thereafter applications for documents and witnesses by those defendants whose witnesses and documents have not already been decided upon shall be heard in open session. In this way several days will be occupied in which many of the Defense Counsel can be absent from Court and they can prepare their defenses out of Court.

That is all.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: May I continue?

Mr. President: Yesterday you asked me who, in January 1942, was the Chief of the Armament and Equipment Department of the German Army. I could

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not answer yesterday but I report to you today that that person was General of the Infantry Thomas.

As to the second question which you put to me, that is, what measures were taken as to the report of Major Roesler, I questioned Moscow, where this correspondence is being kept. There are only excerpts from this correspondence there and the rest of the correspondence is in another archive. We questioned this archive yesterday and as soon as the further disposition of this correspondence is ascertained I will immediately report to the Tribunal. It will be a day or two.

Before continuing my statement, I wish to remark that I want to conclude my statement today. I have to submit a considerable number of documents and therefore, the following statement will be rather fragmentary. I will not dwell on particulars and will endeavor not to repeat what has already been said by the Prosecutors of other countries. Therefore, my statement will be rather summarized and I beg the indulgence of the Tribunal.

I will now proceed with my statement.

The legal-medical experts' report has already been submitted to the Tribunal as U.S.S.R. Exhibit Number 48. It was signed by the President of the Medical Academy Burdenko, by the principal legal-medical expert Dr. Prozorovsky and other experts. Besides these conclusions which have already been submitted by my colleague Colonel Pokrovsky, I now submit to the Tribunal a detailed conclusion of this expert commission. From this the Tribunal will not only be able to judge the conclusions but also the methods. I will not now again cite those parts of the account which were already quoted by Colonel Pokrovsky, in part.

I will skip four pages of my statement and pass on to page 213. That part which I wish to quote now the Tribunal will be able to find on page 307-308 of the document book, Volume 2, second part of the page. This is a typical scene of victims of German terror in 1941 and the beginning of 1942.

"The ditches from which the corpses were exhumed do not represent common burial grounds. The corpses were not laid out in rows and did not lie one next to the other but constituted multi-layered or a compact mass of women and men's bodies massed in disorder and clutching each other. In this mass of corpses som

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were bent or half bent, some were lying on their sides, standing on their knees, with their heads downwards or upwards, with legs and arms mixed. It was impossible to determine the contours of each corpse before they were exhumed from the ditch."

However, this chaotic manner of burial of the bodies appears to characterize only the mass burials which were performed towards the end of 1941 and the beginning of 1942.

Subsequently, during exhumations, the legal-medical experts discovered very many burial grounds where the corpses were laid down in an orderly fashion, layer on layer.

A typical aspect of such a burial ground can be found by the Tribunal in the album regarding the Lvov Camp, on page 13 of this album, where there is a picture of a burial ground. The bodies are lying in regular layers.

THE PRESIDENT: Which album is it?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: It is the album which concerns the Lvov Camp. It was submitted to the Tribunal yesterday. This scene is on page 15 of the album. It is a photograph which was discovered in the Gestapo headquarters at Lvov.

What the origins of this regular laying out of bodies were, the Tribunal will be able to judge by excerpts from the report of the Extraordinary State Commission.

THE PRESIDENT: Is this a photograph of the bodies as they lay in the trench or after they had been moved?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: No, it is a photograph taken by the Gestapo, Mr. President. It was taken by some member of the Gestapo and was discovered in archives. You will see how they march in rows to the execution.

What provoked this regular laying out of the bodies? The Tribunal will find the answer to this on page 213 of the document book, paragraph eight. This is a report of the Extraordinary State Commission on Atrocities in the Town of Rovno.

"The witness Karpuk, who worked on a German farm near the stree Belaya testified:

"I saw several times how the Hitlerites exterminated Soviet citizens, Ukrainians, Russians, Poles and Jews. This took place usually in the following

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manner:

'The German henchmen brought the condemned to the execution place, forced them to dig a ditch, ordered them to undress and to lie down in the ditch, face downward. The Nazis fired at the back of the necks of the victims with machine pistols. Then another group of people lay down on top of the bodies of the shot and were finished off in the same manner and then a third row and so on until the ditch was filled. Then they poured quicklime over the corpses and covered them with earth."

One can judge the proportion of this finished method of mass execution by an excerpt concerning the executions in Maidanek. I quote from a document by a Soviet-Polish Commission, already admitted by the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit Number 29. The Tribunal will find this on page 65 of the document book, first column of the text:

"On 3 November, 1943, 18,400 people were shot in the camp. 8,400 originated from the camp itself, whereas 10,000 were brought there from the city or from

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other camps."

I skip the next sentence.

"The shootings started early in the morning and ceased late in the evening. The people had been stripped naked, were brought in groups by the SS. These groups were fifty or one hundred people. They were laid down in the ditch with their faces down and shot with automatic rifles. Then a new group of people were laid on the corpses and shot in the same manner until the pits were full."

I especially concerned myself with the question as to what was the exact epoch of the appearance of this method. The Soviet documentation is testimony to the fact that this started in the second half of 1942 and similar methods of shooting were adopted by the German Police Detachments in Poland, beginning with 1939.

Thanks to the ability of our British colleagues, I submit to the Tribunal a document which was received by the British Prosecution. It is a photostatic copy -- the original is in the archives of the British delegation and I think I can state that if the Tribunal needs the original copy the British delegation will be so kind as to submit it to the Tribunal. The authenticity of the information which is contained in this document cannot be questioned. It is a German report which was taken from the archives of Hitler's headquarters.

I quote an extract which the Tribunal will find on page 391 of the document book. The German staff doctors considered it necessary to report to Hitler about these shootings. I quote:

"These shootings, since they are done publicly, give a great deal of food to enemy propaganda."

From this correspondence I quote a short excerpt from the minutes of the examination of Corporal Paul Kluge. Paul Kluge belonged to a sentry detachment. He heard that on Sunday October 8, 1939, at the Jewish cemetery, shooting of Poles would take place and out of curiousity he decided to visit the place of execution. I quote only that part of the examination which speaks of the methods of shooting. The Tribunal will find this quotation on page 393 of the document book, second volume, second paragraph.

"We decided that we had been the victims of silly rumors and were returning to our barracks, when suddenly a large truck full of women and children drove

into the cemetery. We returned to the cemetery. Then we saw how a party consisting of one woman and three children of three to eight years old were led to an open grave about two meters wide and eight meters long. The woman was forced to get into this grave and she took her youngest child with her in her arms. Two men, members of the punitive expedition took the other two children and gave them to her. The woman was forced to lie down face downwards in the ditch and her three children lay down in the same manner at her left side. After that four men of the punitive detail also climbed down into the grave and aimed their guns so that the barrels were about ten centimeters away from the nape of the neck. In this fashion they shot the woman and her three children. Then the supervising Sturmbannfuehrer called on me to help fill in the grave. I obeyed this order and therefore being quite near, I was able to see how the next party of women and children were shot in the same manner as were the first persons.

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"In all, nine or ten groups of women and children were shot, every time four at a time in the same grave."

Therefore, we can see that this method of mass shooting is of very early origin.

I skip the next page of the report as it concerns minutes of another examination and submit to the Tribunal proof of other, even worse methods of mass shootings which were invented by the Hitlerite criminals, beginning with 1943 and until the end of the war.

The Hitlerite criminals, beginning with 1943, began to adopt all sorts of methods of hide their crime and then they started to burn the bodies. It has been proved by documents that in many cases the Hitlerites compelled their victims first to prepare the firewood, then to lie down on these piles of wood and they were then shot. The next party of condemned persons brought fresh firewood, laid it down on the layer of corpses and then lay down themselves on this stack of firewood and were shot.

I beg the Tribunal to turn to the document book concerning the Kloga camp. You will find there a typical example of this cruel manner of shooting. In order to prove this statement, I turn to a document which has already been submitted previously to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 39. The excerpt which I wish to quote is on page 233 of the document book, second column of the text:

"On the 19 of September, 1944 the Germans began the liquidation of the Kloga camp. Camp Unterscharfuehrer Schwarze, the head of the main camp

and Scharfuehrer Max Dalmann selected three hundred people from among the prisoners, and forced them to carry firewood to a clearing in the woods. Seven hundred other men were forced to build funeral pyres. When these pyres were ready the German henchmen began mass shootings of the internees.

"In the first place were shot those who carried the wood and built up the pyres of firewood and then the others. The shooting occurred in the following manner:

"At the point of a pistol members of the Security Service Police forced the prisoners to lie face downwards on the prepared funeral pyres and then they shot them with submachine guns or revolvers. The bodies were burned on the funeral pyres."

I skip the following part of the quotation and in order to prove that certain methods were even more cruel, I beg the Tribunal to turn to a document, which has already been submitted as USSR Exhibit 38. It is the report on the atrocities of the German usurpers in the town of Minsk. I refer to a quotation which the Tribunal will find on page 214 of the document book in the second column of the text, last paragraph.

In the first part of this quotation you will find a description that in order to hide the traces of their crimes the German Hitlerite usurpers built up near the Village Maly Trostianets a concentration camp. I begin my quotation from that part of the report which speaks of the shootings which occurred in the immediate neighborhood of this primitive camp.

I begin the quotation with the testimony of the witness Savinsky, who stated as follows:

"Having reached a point ten kilometers from Minsk, near the Village of Maly Trostianets, the car stopped near one of the barns. We all understood that we were brought here to be shot.

"By order of the German henchmen the interned women were brought out in groups of four from the car."

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot find where this is. What is the name of the witness?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: Savinsky -- it is on page 228 or 229 of the translation.

"Soon it was my turn. With Anna Golubevich, Yulia Semashko and another woman, whose name I do not know, I climbed on to the pile of bodies. Shots were fired. I was slightly injured on the head and fell."

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I skip the next part of the quotation which describes how she saved herself.

The legal-medical experts ascertained that in the region of the necks of these bodies there were bullet wounds and the bodies of 63 persons were discovered.

I skip the next three pages of the text and submit to the Tribunal as proof of the --

THE PRESIDENT: The translation came through to us that 63 people were killed. The translation in writing is 65,000.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: That is agross mistake on the part of the interpreter. They diminished the number of shot by ten times. It is 65,000.

I skip the following three pages of the text and pass on to proof of the existence of special places of mass executions where the number of persons shot was numbered in the hundreds of thousands of persons and where the condemned were brought not only from the surrounding regions but from many countries of Europe.

I submit to the Tribunal proof of the existence of two such centers that acquired an especially grim reputation. It was in the locality of Panarai, eight kilometers from Vilnus. It acquired a very grim reputation and it was called Fort Number 9 of the Fort of Death.

I quote a report which has been submitted to the Tribunal, the report of the Extraordinary Commission on the Atrocities of the Hitlerite Usurpers in Lithuania. The Tribunal will find this quotation on page 293, second column of the text, last paragraph. I skip the first lines, which states that the mass execution place at Panarai was organized in July 1941 and existed until June 1944. I start with the fourth paragraph where it refers to the Hitlerite attempts to obliterate the traces of their crimes.

"In December 1943, (stated witness Saydel Matvey Fedorovich) we were forced to exhume and burn the corpses."

I skip the next sentence and continue:

"In this way we placed on each bonfire approximately three thousand corpses, poured crude oil over them, placed incendiary bombs on four sides and set it on fire."

The burning of corpses continued from the end of 1943 to June 1944. In this period more than one hundred thousand corpses were dug out from nine pits of a

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total volume of 21,179 cubic meters and they were burnt on bonfires.

I skip the next three paragraphs and quote the conclusion of the medical-legal expert commission.

"The corpses that were examined were for the most part those of the civilian population. A small number of corpses was found dressed in military uniforms. On some of the corpses were found items of religious worship of the Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches. According to the objects and documents found, it has been established that among those who were shot were physicians, engineers, students, chauffeurs, mechanics, railroad workers, and so on."

I skip the next three paragraphs and pass on to the conclusion:

"The Medico-Legal Expert Commission has established that the German Fascist henchmen shot and burned in Panariay not less than 100,000 people."

I quote further proof concerning the Fort of Death in Kaunace. Fort No.9 was called by the residents of Kaunace the "Fort of Death". This fort is located six kilometers northwest of the city and represents an old concrete fortification work. Inside of it there are numerous vaults, which have been used by the Germans as cells for prisoners. On all sides, this fort is surrounded by a concrete wall and barbed wire. In the very first days after their arrival in Kaunace, the Hitlerites drove into the fort approximately 1,000 Soviet war prisoners and forced them to dig ditches in a field of an area of some five odd hectares at the western wall of the fort.

During the months of July and August 1941, fourteen ditches were dug, each of them three meters wide, 200 meters long, and over two meters in depth. All those persons who happened to get into Fort No. 9

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never survived. In columns of several thousand people, the Hitlerites drove here women, children, adolescents, men and aged persons with the purpose of shooting them and burning their bodies.

I skip the next three paragraphs and continue my quotation:

"In Fort No. 9 people of different nationalities were shot: Russians, Ukrainians, Byelo-Russians, Lithuanians, Poles and Jews were shot there.

"The following people where shot in this fort: A representative of the Supreme Soviet Council of SSR, Bougginskiene; Representative of the Supreme Soviet Council of the Lithuanian SSR, Sibertas, and others.

"Besides Soviet citizens the Hitlerites exterminated in Fort No. 9 citizens from France, Austria and Czechoslovakia."

A former supervisor of Fort No. 9, the witness Nauggunas, testified:

"The first group offoreigners, numbering 4,000, arrived at the fort in December 1941. I talked to one of the women, who said that they were being transported to Russia, allegedly for work. On 10 December 1941 the extermination of foreigners began. They were ordered to leave the fort in groups of 100 people, allegedly for inoculations. Those who left did not return. All 4,000 foreigners were shot. On 15 December 1941 another group arrived, numbering approximately 3,000 persons, which was also exterminated."

I skip the following quotation and nearly the whole of the following page, and give only conclusive data.

The Commission ascertained that the Hitlerites had exterminated in Fort No. 9 over 70,000 people, peaceful inhabitants.

Among other methods of the Hitlerites for the mass executions, we must mention some methods which are vile indeed. In order to prove this statement, I refer to the Report of the Extraordinary State Commission for the Stavropol region, which has already been submitted to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit No. 1. The Tribunal will find this excerpt on Page 268 of the document book, second paragraph of the text:

"It is established that prior to deserting the city of Gerogievsk on 9 January of this year, obeying the command of the Chief Physician of the German hospitals in the city, Baron Dr. von Heiman, the German soldiers were selling at the city market methyl alcohol and oxalic acid,

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pretending the first to be drinking alcohol and the second soda water. This was done with the intentional purpose of poisoning the people."

Mass poisonings occurred.

Among the crimes perpetrated by the Hitlerites on Soviet territory I must mention especially the terror which the inhabitants of Leningrad were subjected to. I have already mentioned this in speaking of the city of Leningrad yesterday. In order to shorten my quotation -- although, being a citizen of Leningrad myself, I would like to dwell on this part -- I will only quote general data regarding these crimes. The Tribunal will find this quotation on page 345 of the document book, second volume, last paragraph.

"During the 900 day siege of Leningrad when the Germans were in possession of its suburbs the atrocities they perpetrated on the civilians were countless.

"The Germans dropped on Leningrad 107,000 demolition and incendiary bombs and 150,000 heavy artillery shells. Every Leningrad resident, every minute, all through the days of the seige, was in the same danger as if he had been on a field of battle. He was threatened with death every instant. Bombing and artillery fire killed a total of 16,747 and wounded 33,782 persons."

I interrupt my quotation, skip the next page of my statement, and beg the Tribunal to pay attention to page 347 of the second volume of the document book, an excerpt from the report of the German artillerist who shelled Leningrad. I will now only give figures concerning the persons who died of hunger in Leningrad. It is the terrible winter of 1941-1942. I quote only one line:

"as a result of the hunger blockade of Leningrad, 632,253 people perished."

I skip the following two pages and pass on to proofs regarding the adoption by the Hitlerites of special machines for the killing of people. People were poisoned by gas, by special machines, "sondermaschinen", or gas vans, by asphixiation vans.

The fact, alone, of employing such machines for the mass murder of people constitutes a very heavy charge against the leaders of German

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fascism. The special equipment for the mass extermination of people in hermetically closed machines, such as exhaust pipes of motors which were connected to the bodies of machines by means of special mobile tubes were utilized by the German Fascists for the first time in the USSR in 1942.

I skip the following part of my text and consider that it is indispensable only to remind the Tribunal that for the first time these machines of death weremention ed in an act which I have already submitted to the Tribunal concerning the atrocities of the German Fascist aggressors, in the town of Kerch. This document was submitted as USSR 63 and refers to the spring of 1942.

I remind the Tribunal of an excerpt from the statement of the witness Darya Demchenko, who saw how the German servicemen in Kerch threw out the bodies of the murdered into an anti-tank ditch. However, it can not be contested that the mass extermination of people in gas vans was ascertained for the first time in the report of the Extraordinary State Commission on atrocities of the German occupants in the Stavropol region. This document was submitted to the Tribunal by me earlier as USSR 1.

Investigation of the crimes committed by the German Fascists in the Stavropol region was directed by the presently deceased, prominent Soviet writer and member of the Extraordinary State Commission, Academician Tolstoi.

A very thorough investigation was undertaken with the assistance of the most prominent specialists in judicial medicine, as human imagination, which has definite logical limits, could with difficulty accept the existence of these machines. However, as a result of the investigation, as the testimony of witnesses regarding the murder vans and mass murders of peaceful citizens --

THE PRESIDENT: What page is this?

THE RUSSIAN-ENGLISH INTERPRETER: Page 246.

THE PRESIDENT: We've got it.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: The interpreter translated that and asked me what was the date of this document, and that is why I was looking for a date.

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Forgive me, please.

In the report of the Extraordinary State Commission, on the Stavropol region, we read the first detailed description of the mechanism of these murder vans, and I am quoting in this excerpt which the Tribunal will find on page 268 of the document book, fourth paragraph. I quote this excerpt in full as the technical details which we find here coincide fully with those technical details which were so fully reported to the Tribunal by the American Prosecution. This is corroborative evidence, and, therefore, is important. I begin my quotation:

"Mass extermination by the Germans of the peaceful citizens of the USSR by means of poisoning by carbon monoxide in specially constructed machines or motor vans was definitely determined. The prisoner of war Fenichel testified:

"'While working as a mechanic, I had the opportunity to get acquainted in detail with the mechanisms of these machines, which werespecially equipped for strangulation and extermination of people by means of gases. There were several such machines in the town of Stavropol at the disposal of the Gestapo.

"'Their construction was as follows: The body was approximately five meters long and two and a half meters wide; the height of the body was approximately two and a half meters. The body had the shape of a wagon without windows. Inside, it was lined, with galvanized iron. On the floor, which was also lined with galvanized iron, there were wooden grills. The door of the body was lined with rubber and could be hermetically closed by means of an automatic lock. On the floor of these machines under the grill, there were placed two metal pipes."

I skip the next phrase.

"These pipes were interconnected by means of a cross pipe of similar diameter."

I skip the next phrase.

"These pipes had frequent openings of one and a half centimeters in diameter. From the cross pipe led a rubber tube through an opening in the iron lined floor. At the end of thetube was a sextagonal spike with threading which corresponded to the threading at the end of the motor exhaust pipe. This tube could be screwed to the exhaust pipe. During the use of

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the motor, all the gas which was thus obtained penetrated into the body of this hermetically closed machine. As a result of the accumultion of these gases, a man who was placed inside the body died within a short time. The body of the machine could contain approximately 70-80 people. The motor of this machine usually bore the trademark 'Sauer'."

I skip the following part of the quotation, which contains data which are already known to the Tribunal and beg the Tribunal to pay attention to page 270 of the document book, first paragraph, which says that in the Stavropol district the motor van was used for the murder of 660 people who were ill.

I draw attention of the Tribunal to the report of the Extradorinary State Commission regarding the crimes of the Germancriminals in the Krasnodar district. I submit this document to the Tribunal as USSR 42. It concerns data of the mass killing of people in murder vans. I will not quote this document.

I pass to page 243 of the Russian text, and I submit to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 65 the verdict of the military tribunal of the North Caucasion Front. I wish only to quote a short excerpt. The Tribunal will find this on page 239 of the document book, volume 2.

The legal investigation has also ascertained the facts of the systematic torture and burning by the Hitlerite criminals of many arrested Soviet citizens, which were in the cellars of the Gestapo, as well as the facts of the extermination by asphixiation by gases of carbon-monoxide in specially built cars, machines of death; namely, the asphixiation of 7,000 innocent Soviet people, including more than 700 ill persons who were in the hospitals of the town of Krasshodar and the Krassnodar region. Among them were 32 children, from five to 16 years old.

At first I wanted to quote a series of testimonies given by witnesses, but I will not do so, in order to save time, and I skip four pages of the text and pass on to page 249 of the Russian text.

I submit to the Tribunal a report of the Extraordinary State Commission on the atrocities of the German Fascist criminals in the town of Krarkov and the Kharkov district. I submit this document to the Tribunal as USSR 43. I will not quote this document, and will only draw the attention of the Tribunal to a summarizing document; namely, the verdict

of the military tribunal of the Ukrainian Front, a verdict which was pronounced in this case. This has been introduced to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 32. The Tribunal willfind this excerpt on page 22 of the document book, first paragraph. I quote:

"In the mass killing of Soviet citizens, the German Fascist usurpers adopted the so-called gas wagons, large closed cars which were known to theRussians as 'machines of death'. Into these gas wagons

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of the military tribunal of the Ukrainian Front, a verdict which was pronounced in this case. This has been introduced to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 32. The Tribunal willfind this excerpt on page 22 of the document book, first paragraph. I quote:

"In the mass killing of Soviet citizens, the German Fascist usurpers adopted the so-called gas wagons, large closed cars which were known to theRussians as 'machines of death'. Into these gas wagons

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the German Fascist usurpers drove Soviet citizens and murdered them by letting out special poisonous gas, carbon-monoxide. In order to hide the traces of the crimes committed and the mass extermination of Soviet people by way of asphyxiation with carbon-monoxide in these gas wagons, the German Fascists burned the bodies of their victims."

I conclude this quotation and skip the following page of the text and another page, and on page 252 of my statement.

I now refer to a report of the Extraordinary State Commission which has already been submitted to the Tribunal under number 9 regarding the atrocities committed in the town of Kiev.

THE PRESIDENT: We have just had handed up to us in the written translation of your address, page 23¼. We already had page 23¼. Do you want this to be 23¼A? Is it just one page that you are handing up now?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: There is a different numbering in the English text, and it is difficult for me to follow the text which is in your possession, and I do not know this new numbering. I can therefore not follow. I am on page 251 of the Russian text.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the better course will be to adjourn now and perhaps the slight muddle in these translations can be cleared up.

(A recess was taken.)

COLONEL SMIRNOV: May I continue?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: In confirmation of the wide application of murder vans in temporarily occupied regions, I refer to the series of reports of the Extraordinary State Commission for investigation of crimes in Rowna.

The members of the Tribunal will find reference to this on page 291, second column of the page, 10th paragraph. I limit my quotation to one paragraph.

"Extermination of peaceful citizens and prisoners of war in the town of Rowna used to take place by means of mass shooting from

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tommy-guns and machine guns, murder with carbon-monoxide in murder vans, and in separate instances people were thrown into pits while they were alive, and buried alive."

I end my quotation here. To confirm the same, I further refer to the reports of the Extraordinary State Commission about the crimes in Minsk.

The members of the Tribunal will find the quotation on page 215, in the second paragraph, second column, of the page. I read one quotation from it. I begin.

"Thousands of Soviet citizens have perished in Minsk concentration camps at the hands of the German executioners."

I omit the following sentence, and I quote the testimony of witness Moiseivitch.

"I was eye witness of how Germans killed people in their murder vans. From 70 to 80 people were forcibly put into a murder van and they were carried in an unknown direction."

I end my quotation, and I ask the Tribunal's permission to draw its attention to the fact that in the use of murder vans in Minsk, the same principle was used for establishing stationary gas chambers, which was usually done in bath houses. It is also mentioned in the same report of the State Commission.

Further, I refer to the verdict of the court martials of Smolensk Military Region, dated 15 December 1945, which the Tribunal will find on page 72 of the document book.

It is related there that in Smolensk Germans used the practice of killing Soviet people with carbon-monoxide in special murder vans. It seems to me that it is not merely by coincidence or an accident that murder vans appeared in the territory of the USSR in the year of 1942. At the time the chief criminals were still quite convinced of their coming victory, and then they started their practical execution of their former plans of extermination of the people of Europe. They were not afraid of responsibility for these crimes.

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That is the reason why in 1942 there appear new links in the long chain of the crimes of the leaders of the German Fascists.

The Fascist technique of extermination was once again in full sway. It created murder vans, gas chambers and concentration camps, special electrical appliances for the mass murder of those convicted, the crematoria, and also vans with poison.

Now, I pass over to the next section of my presentation: Concentration Camps for the Peaceful Population.

Inasmuch as this subject has already been extensively treated by the members of the Prosecution who presented their cases before me, I shall try to be as brief as possible, and I shall limit myself either only to absolutely new information or to the text of the documents which serve as an explanation to the Kino-Films which will be presented today before the Tribunal.

I ask the permission of the Tribunal to draw its attention to the fact that at the end of 1941 and all of 1942 was a period of great enlargement in scale of German Fascist crimes which were committed in concentration camps. I refer to the report of the Polish Government in confirmation of this statement.

On page 138 of the document book the members of the Tribunal may find the testimony to the effect that in 1942 there was a rapid building of one of the most terrible concentration camps, and that is the Camp Treblin Number 2. The Germans called this Treblin B.

Further, I refer to the findings of the Extraordinary State Commission relating to Auschwitz. The members of the Tribunal will find this report, the one I am going to quote, on page 253 in the document book, volume 2, second column of the text, paragraph 2. I quote.

"In 1941 the crematorium for burning the corpses of murdered people was built in the Camp of Auschwitz. This crematorium had three ovens. Attached to the crematorium there was a so-called bath house for a special purpose. That is a gas chamber for murdering people.

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The first crematorium existed until the middle of 1943."

I draw the attention of the Tribunal to the following sentence. "In the summer of 1942 Reichsfuehrer SS Himmler inspected Auschwitz Camp and ordered to enlarge it greatly and also to perfect it technically."

I end my quotation here, and I call the attention of the Tribunal to the place which the Tribunal will find on page 136 on the reverse side of the page.

This is a report of the Polish Government, which shows that the Camp Sobibur was founded in the period of the first and second liquidation of the Jewish Ghetto, but a real wave of extermination really went through this camp in the beginning of 1943.

In this same report in the last paragraph on page 136 of the document file, we will find mentioned the fact that the Camp Belsen was founded in 1941; but it was in 1942 that the special electrical appliances were built in the camp for mass extermination of the people. Under the pretext that the people were being led to the bath house, the doomed persons were undressed and then they were driven to the building where the floor was electrified in a special way. Thus they were killed.

Usually the concentration camps of German Fascism can be divided into two groups: the ordinary concentration camps and the camps of extermination. It seems to me that such a separation or differentiation is not quite correct, because the usual or the regular camps also served for the purposes of extermination of people.

I skip two pages of my text of presentation, and I quote from page 260, and in confirmation of what I said just now, I refer to the report of the Extraordinary State Commission relative to Yanov Camp in the city of Lvov.

The Tribunal will find this on page 259 in the document book, fifth paragraph of the first column of the text. But at the same time, I ask the members of the Tribunal to refer to page 6 of the album of

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pictures of the Lvov camp, where there is a picture of the Valley of Death.

The ground is soaked with human blood to the depth of one meter and a half, and on the following page there is the property of the executed persons.

This picture was taken by the experts of legal medicine about two months after the mass shootings, and to the depth of one meter and a half the ground was soaked with human blood.

From the reports of the Extraordinary State Commission relative to the crimes in the camp of Lvov, it can be seen that in this camp, which officially was the usual work camp, in accordance with the findings of the legal experts there were over 200,000 Soviet citizens exterminated. I quote only one paragraph on page 260, the first. I begin.

"In considering the general area and also the area in which the ashes were strewn, we will find altogether two square kilometers. The expert commission considers that in the Yanov Camp there were exterminated over 200,000 Soviet citizens."

I omit the next part of my presentation, which deals with the regime of exhaustion in concentration camps. It was already very well presented by the representative of the British Prosecution, Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, and I don't think it will be necessary to give any further presentation of it. But I ask the Tribunal's permission for a presentation of evidence on an altogether different type of camp, which was created by the German Fascists only during the last stage of the war. I refer to page 265 of my presentation.

Majdanek and Auschwitz camps served as a means of extermination only for those who really were sent to the camps. These two camps were not a direct menace or threat for those people who were beyond the walls of the camp, but in the course of the war, having already suffered grave defeats, German Fascism began the practice of new bestial ways of extermination of the peaceful citizens. Thus were created

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in Byelo-Russia the camps of death, not only to kill people who were in the camp itself but first and foremost in order to spread among the peaceful population and in the ranks of the Red Army infectious diseases. There were no crematoria and gas chambers in the camp, but really those camps in justice should be really considered as one of the most cruel concentration camps which were created by Fascism for extermination of people.

As USSR Exhibit number 4, I present to the Tribunal the report of the Extraordinary State Commission for investigation of crimes of murdering people by spreading an epidemic of typhus. Such evidence was not presented before, and consequently I shall quote several passages from it. I cannot quote it in full, because there isn't sufficient time. I begin the quotation on page 454, first column, second paragraph. I begin.

"On the 19th of March, 1944, advancing units of the Red Army near the settlement of Osaritchi in the region of Poless in Byelo-Russia SSR, discovered in the boundary of German defense lines three concentration camps in which there were over 33,000 children, women and old men who were not capable of work."

I interrupt my quotation, and I skip one paragraph.

"The camps were really open squares surrounded by barbed wire. Entrances and approaches to it were mined. There were no buildings whatever even of the most insignificant type. There were none on the grounds of the camp."

I call the Tribunal's attention to the fact that it was in the month of March in 1942 when it is really cold there.

"The inmates were sitting on the ground. Many of them, who had lost their ability to move, were lying in the mud unconscious. It was forbidden for the inmates to build bonfires, to gather brush or branches for bedding. For

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a significant attempt to violate this order, the Hitlerites used to shoot Soviet people.

"Creating concentration camps right near the front lines, the Germans, first of all, were selecting places for camps. They did not hope to retain their position. Secondly, concentrating large masses of Soviet people in the campt, they used to place in them primarily women, children, incapable of work, and old men. Thirdly, together with those exhausted and incapable of work, in unsanitary conditions, they used to put in the camps thousands of people sick with typhus who were especially brought from different regions of Byelo-Russia SSR.

"Among those who were liberated from these camps there were children up to the age of 13. There were 15,960. Women who were incapable of work numbered 13,072, and there were 4, 448 old men."

I omit the next page, and I read page 269 of the Russian presentation. I quote from the one paragraph which serves as testimony of the fact of how the unfortunate people from different regions of Byelo-Russia were driven to these camps.

Witness Mrs. L. Pekarski, who was liberated from the camp, testified before the Commission:

"Om the 12th of March 1944, late in the afternoon, we, the inhabitants of the city of Jlobin, met together for a period of half an hour at the station of Jlobin-South: Here the Germans selected the young ones and took them away. Having herded us into railroad cars, the Germans boarded the doors. Where we were going we didn't know, but we all anticipated some evil.

"We were driven along the railroad line Rudobelski, and we were unloaded late in the afternoon on the 15th of March. During the nighttime, knee deep in mud, we were driven into a camp. From this camp we were driven into another one. En route the Germans were beating us. Those who were lagging behind were shot.

"Here walks one woman with three children. The Germans shot at one of them. When the mother and two other of her children turned and looked at him then the beasts of soldiers took their turns in shooting at them. And then the mother shrieks after her family and her shriek is interrupted by a direct

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shot.

Here walked a mother and son. The child couldn't stand this and he fell. The mother bends over him. She wants to console him with her words but neither the son nor the mother arose. They didn't see the blue sky. The Germans shot him."

I omit the next page of this document and I pass over to the presentation of the evidence of the fact that the Germans premiditatedly drove to this camp those who were sick with typhus."

I quote three paragraphs of page 271:

"P.S. Mitrachovich, who was liberated from the camp and who was a resident of the village Onovo-Abelitza, testified:

"We, who were sick with typhus, were driven to the village of Mikul-Gorodok, into the camp which was surrounded by barbed wire."

"An inhabitant of the hamlet of Novogorudok, Gavrilchik, P.S., testified:

"During three days there were brought into the camp in motor-cars typhus patients, as a result of which many who were healthy also became sick with typhus.'"

I omit the next two pages in the document and I pass over to what the members of the Tribunal will find on page 454, second column, sixth paragraph.

"The German command used to send to the camps, especially the camps located right near the front line, their own agents whowere charged with observing how the epidemic of typhus was spreading among the population and als o amont the Red Army Units. Further, there is the testimony of one of his agents Kastorgouev who was a traitor.

In concluding the presentation of evidence relative to this matter, I shall only quote a few excerpts from the findings of the legal medical experts. It is on page 454 in the document book, second column, fourth paragraph. I begin:

"The German authorities placed in concentration camps, both the healthy and those whowere sick with typhus, Soviet citizens. In order to expedite the dissemination of typhus in the camps, Germans practiced moving the typhus patients from one camp to another one. On many occasions when typhus patients refused to go into the camp, the German authorities used violent measures.

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German aggressors used to move typhus patients from hospitals into the camps and next to the healthy population in the camps. In the last paragraph, E, the infecting of the Soviet population with typhus took place in the period of the second half of February and in the first half of March. The result of it was mass infection of the people who were inmates of the camp and the confirmation of which the members of the Tribunal will find in the next paragraph where it is said that the Red Army Command sent to the hospitals 4,052 Soviet citizens, out of which 2,370 were children below 13 years of age.

I omit those sections of my presentation where I wanted to give concrete information as to the hardships of those who were inmates of these concentration camps and I pass to page 277 of my presentation where I deal with concentration camps of the usual type.

I quote only one short excerpt from report of the Yugoslav Government dealing with Camp Banyitza, near Belgrade, from which it is evident that the camps near Yugoslavia so far as bestial conditions are concerned were quite identical with the camps in other countries of Eastern Europe. The members of the Tribunal will find on page 263 in the document book, second paragraph. I quote three paragraphs of this report:

"In Camp Baniytza, near Belgrade, this camp was established by the German occupational authorities as far back as June, 1941. From the documents of this camp, seized by the authorities, it is evident that there were registered 23,673 inmates. However, from the testimony of the surviving witnesses, especially the employees of the Quisling authorities who worked in this camp, it was possible to establish that through this camp passed really a much greater number of victims."

I omit the next paragraph and continue my quotation:

"The witness Monchilo Gemyanoviche at the end of 1943 participated in burning corpses of the victims of the Camp Baniytza."

And I omit the remainder of the paragraph. I continue my quotation:

"At the interrogation of the 7th of February, 1945, he testified before the Yugoslav State Commission that during his period of work there he counted 68,000 corpses."

I omit further the reports since the particulars are well known to the

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Tribunal. I omit five pages of the presentation and I pass to the page 283. And I present to the Tribunal as Exhibit USSR-193 an excerpt from an official of the hospital, Dr. S. Dielinel.

In this report of the Yugoslav Government it is justifiably said that this hospital reminds one more of a mortuary or chapel, where the bodies of those were delivered for final mass. On some days there were delivered to the hospital tens and hundreds of people who died of starvation. For instance, in one excerpt it says 87 bodies were delivered to the hospital. Under No. 1272 it is mentioned that 122 bodies were delivered to this hospital and that under No. 204 there were 112 bodies delivered. I don't consider that these figures need any comment to illustrate the regime in the camp especially as far as conditions are concerned in the camps in the territory of the USSR temporarily occupied by Germans. I quote a short excerpt from the report of the State Extraordinary Commission relative to the crimes in Lithuanian SSR. I begin:

"In the territories of Lithuanian SSR Hitlerites exterminated in great numbers not only the local population but also people who were driven here from Orlov District the Smolensk, Vitebsk and Leningrad Districts. Through this camp for the evacuated population near the town of Alitous, you will see from movie document which will be presented today, that from summer 1943 to June 1944 200,000 people passed through this camp. I omit the next part of the quotation and I skip one paragraph.

"In the city there was no sanitation, there was absence of water, starvation and disease and also shootings, resulting in the fact that during the period of 14 months in this camp there perished up to 60,000 peaceful Soviet people.

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I omit two next pages of my presentation and I quote from page 289. It mentions here that for the families of the members of the Red Army in the territories of Lithuanian SSR there were created special concentration camps. And the following order was posted in this camp. I begin:

"For expressing displeasure with German authorities and for violation of the camp regime the Soviet people should be shot without any trials, should be jailed and should be sent for permanent exile to Germany."

I omit one paragraph and continue:

"The four commanders mentioned frequently to the inmates 'You are our slaves; I shall punish you however I want.'

I refer further to the report of the State Extraordinary Commission relative to the Crimes in the City of Kiev. There are described murders in camps which will be shown in the movies today.

THE PRESIDENT: The interpreters are having difficulty, so would you please try to talk more slowly?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: I shall speak slowly, but I speak rapidly quite unconsciously, since I have a lot of presentation and such presentation will be quite lengthy, such as thedocumentary films. That is why I quote only one quotation, which shows the methods of extermination of people in one Camp. Third paragraph of the Russian text.

In one,Sturmbannfuehrer Radomski and his deputy leader, Rieder, used devious means in extermination of Soviet people. For instance, they invented the following means of murder:

Some Soviet people were made to climb a tree and others had to saw it down. The people would fall down together with the tree and be killed.

Further, I quote a short excerpt from the Report of the Extraordinary Commission in regard to crimes in Estonian SSR. This also shows a highly severe regime in the camps in Estonia. I quote the last paragraph:

"Daily in the camp there were mass floggings of the inmates. Besides this, for the smallest violation of the rules people were left without any food for days then they were given a period of severe cold, and were tied to a post for two or three hours. This shocking treatment of the inmates was not only on the part of the SS Guards but also the administration of the camp and the German physicians. The German doctor, Bortmann, personally beat

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two inmates, Dr. Salkingson and Dr. Gezon. This Dr. Bortmann systematically poisoned sick inmates, injecting under the skin poison at every point. The medical attendant Unterscharfuehrer Gent, killed with an axe 23 elderly inmates. The witness Ranter testified in February 1944 in the camp at Kloga there were born two children. Both of those children were thrown alive into the furnace and burnt."

I interrupt my quotation here, as I consider that the regime in such concentratinn camps is already quite clear.

I pass to the presentation of evidence on the camps of extermination.

A lot of evidence has been already presented to the Tribunal and therefore I shall limit myself only with presentation and evidence which really serves as material of explanation of those movies which will be shown to the Tribunal today. I consider that the Tribunal has already a very clear idea of the fact that in concentration camps there were exterminated citizens of all countries of Europe. Into these camps there were brought people both from Western Europe and from the countries of Eastern Europe. Besides official reports on these camps we also get information from a picture of which can be found in the album on Auschwitz where inhabitants of all countries of Europe were listed. A special technique was used in the extermination of the people. And here I shall dwell on one new item, which was especially investigated by me when I was analyzing testimony in concentration camps. However, I wanted to find out how many special firms in Germany were engaged in building at least only crematoria for the concentration camps. And now I shall present to the Tribunal the evidence that in Fascist Germany there were at least three special business firms which were engaged only in building of crematoria for concentration camps. This serves as testimony of the crime.

I skip to page 303 of my presentation. I begin my presentation of evidence in this section and I askthe Tribunal to refer to the report of the State Extraordinary Commission about the crimes of German Fascist occupants in Auschwitz. I quote this document, which is on page 353 in the document book, and it is recorded in the text. I begin:

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"Construction of new vast crematoria was given to the German firm of Topf & Sons, of Erfurt, which immediately began to build in Birkenau four vast crematoria and gas chambers. Berlin impassionedly demanded the expediting of the construction and finish of all the work before the beginning of 1943. In the records of the office of Auschwitz Camp there was discovered a vast amount of correspondence between the administration of the camp and the firm Topf & Sons, and among them the following two letters:

"Topf. & Sons, Erfurt,
"12 February1943.

"To Central Construction Office of SS and Police, Auschwitz.

"Subject: Crematoria in the Camps 2 and 3 for the prisoners of war.

"We acknowledge receipt of your wire of the 10th of February of the following contents:

"Once again we acknowledge receipt of your order for five triple furnaces, including two electric elevators to raise the corpses and one elevator of temporary construction for corpses. There was also ordered a practical device for lifting coal and for transport of the ashes. We shall deliver the full installation for Crematory No. 3 and we expect that you shall take measures to deliver immediately all machines with their parts."

I shall omit the next paragraph which deals with bath-houses for a special purpose, and I present to the Tribunal Exhibit USSR-64, a document which is appended to the report of the Yugoslav Government. This is a certified photostat of a document and concerns the correspondence with the business firm, Didi, on the question of construction of crematoria designed for a large camp in Belgrade.

In the document presented by me the firm Didi characterized itself as one firm that had considerable experience in construction of crematoria for concentration camps and it represented itself as a firm that understood the demands of its clients. In order to get the bodies into the furnace the firm created a special conveyor of special design and the firm considered that it could fulfil their orders much better than other firms, and it asked for a small advance, to begin preliminary work connected with the drawing up of blue-prints for the crematoria of the camp. I quote very short excerpts from this document -- the first two paragraphs:

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" Referring to the visit of your son and conversations with him on the part of our employee, Mr. Schtorl, we notice that it is the intention of units of the Belgrade SS to construct the crematorium designed for a large camp and we understand now also that they have been asked to collaborate with the local architects to design and build this crematorium."

I interrupt my quotation and I shall quote one more excerpt.

"In order to get the bodies into the furnace, we suggest two wheeled conveyers, on rollers. In these furnaces there is a compartment for ashes since it is not suggested that coffins will be used, and therefore the width of the compartment should be 600 millimeters and the height 450 millimeters. In order to transport corpses from the place of their storage to the furnaces we suggest using light carts on wheels and we shall send you the blueprints of these carts."

I interrupt my quotation here and I present to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 225 a new document which will be brought to you now. Due to technical reasons it hasn't been delivered to me yet. May I refer to it now, and it will be presented to you within a few minutes. I submit the new document as Exhibit USSR 225, which also deals with the construction of crematoria for concentration camps in Belgrade. This is correspondence of the firm Korn, Ltd. This is a well-known firm, which considered that every business letter had to be ended with "Heil Hitler!" And this firm knew its clients well and the firm Korn recommended once again to inquire whether two furnaces would be sufficient.

The firm, among other things, mentioned that it had already built four furnaces for Dachau and five furnaces for Lublin, and it emphasized that its technically perfected furnaces through practice were greatly remedied. I quote a very short excerpt of this document which the Tribunal will find on page 471 in Volume 2 of the document book. I quote the first paragraph:

"In addition to the negotiations which took place between us, relative to the delivery of the equipment for cremating of the simple construction, we offer our perfected furnaces for cremation, which work on fuel and which have proved to be extremely satisfactory.

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"In connection with the intended construction, we offer two furnaces for cremation, but once again we request you to inquire whether two ovens will be sufficient."

I omit the next paragraph and continue the quotation.

"As to how big the area should be for the furnaces, it is evident from the attached blueprints. The numbers mentioned in the blueprints illustrate how two of the ovens are built. Blueprint No. 9122 was used for the camp in Dachau for all furnaces in the camp.

"The next blueprint illustrates how the equipment was built in the Lublin camp. There were two furnaces for cremation and there were heating chambers in Lublin."

I omit the following, and will read the last paragraph.

"Expecting further news, I will be at your service.

"Heil Hitler!

"C. H. Korn Co. Ltd."

In this way we establish the design and construction of the cremation ovens for the concentration camps.

THE PRESIDENT: The Tribunal would like to know, as they have not these letters before them, to whom they were addressed.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: The letters, Mr. President, were addressed to the SS units in Belgrade. These documents were taken by the Yugoslav Government. The SS units in Belgrade considered that the methods of extermination which were in use in Belsen, which I already stated to the Tribunal, were not adequate enough and they decided to perfect them and for this purpose they started to design the construction of crematoriums in the camp, and then between the police and the units of the SS in Belgrade and the several German firms they started this lively business correspondence, part of which I presented to your attention.

THE PRESIDENT: Were the other letters that you referred to also addressed to SS units?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: They were also addressed to the SS units, Mr. Presid The first letter was addressed to the administration in the camp in Auschw the letters of the firm Topf & Sons.

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I shall present to the Tribunal the evidence of the fact that besides the stationary crematorium, there was also a movable crematorium. The Tribunal already knows about the portable movable gas chambers. Those were murder vans. There were also created transportable crematoriums. An SS member, Waldmann, testifies to their existence. He was one of the participants in the crime of the German Fascists when at one time 840,000 Russian prisoners of war in Aschaffenhausen

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were murdered. The Tribunal has already Exhibit USSR-52, the documents relative to the Auschwitz Camp. I quote that particular place from the testimony of an SS member, Waldmann, where the mass execution in Auschwitz is mentioned.

"The war prisoners murdered in this way were cremated in four movable crematoriums, which were transported on truck trailers."

I omit te next two paragraphs of my presentation that deal with gas chambers and crematoriums. I think the Tribunal already has a clear idea of this question. But I ask the Tribunal to pay particular attention to the repulsive methods of process which were introduced by the German Fascists which relates to industrial usage of the korpses of murdered people. I shall further present to the Tribunal evidence which should testify as to even more repulsive utilization of corpses of the victims. And now I shall go on to a report relative to Auschwitz, which the Tribunal will find on page 333, reverse side, in the document book. I ask the Tribunal to refer to the Auschwitz album, where on page 34, 35, and 36 they will find the pictures of seven tons of hair which was taken from dead women. I begin the quotation:

"From 1943 on the Germans, in order for industrial utilization of bones that were not burned, started to grind bones and to sell them to the firm Topf in order to manufacture sulphur phosphate. In the camp there were found bills of lading to Topf of 112 tons and 600 kilogramms of bone meal from human corpses. For industrial usage, the Germans also used hair cut off of women who were doomed for extermination."

I omit the next page of my presentation and I want to draw the Tribunal's attention to the findings of the Medical Commission of Experts which the Tribunal will find on page 365 in the second paragraph.

Special experiments took place in the gas chambers. On the basis of exact chemical reactions it was established and found that poisoning in gas chambers was done with Cyclone "A" and Cyclone "B", which was acid, and also carbon monoxide.

I quote only one paragraph of the findings of the Medical Commission.

"Technical and sanitary chemical analysis of the gas chambers in the concentration camps in Majdanek" -- that's on page 315, third paragraph --

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"confirms and proves that all those chambers, especially first, second, third, and fourth, were designed and used for mass and systematic extermination of people by means of poisoning with gasses, such as the carbon monoxide and Cyclone."

I omit the further part of this section that relates to the regime in the camps of Auschwitz and Majdanek. I consider that the Tribunal has already a very clear idea as to what kind of regime that was. In fact, part of the people were sent directly to gas chambers and one-fifth or one-sixth was left in the camp and those who exhausted were killed afterwards. I have in my possession plenty of documents, but in order to save time, I omit them. I pass to page 324, which I mention for the convenience of the interpreters. I quote several excerpts which deal with cynical and dastardly plundering of inmates who were doomed to die in Majdanek and Auschwitz, and I ask the Tribunal simultaneously to refer to the Auschwitz album, where on page 27 you will find a number of suitcases belonging to inmates, and on page 28 suitcases with labels of different countries and on page 39 a colossal warehouse of children's clothes, and on page 33 the sar

The document which was not presented at the time that this correspondence of the firm of Topf was presented is presented now, and once again I ask to be excused for the fact that it was not presented in time. I quote only that particular part of the report on Auschwitz, which the Tribunal will find on page 355, on the reverse side, where it is stated what was discovered by the Commission at the warehouse of this camp. I quote one paragraph. I quote page 325, second paragraph.

"On the grounds near the Auschwitz Camp there were thirty-five special warehouses for sorting and packing the belongings and clothes in these warehouses of which twenty-nine warehouses were burned together with the things stored before the retreat after the attack. In the remaining six warehouses there were discovered:

1. Men's clothes and underwear	348,820 sets
2. Female clothes and underwear	836,255 sets
3. Women's footwear	5,525 pairs
4. Men's footwear	38,000 pairs
5. Rugs and carpets	13,964 pieces"

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I omit the subsequent two paragraphs and the following two paragraphs and quote --

THE PRESIDENT: It is time to adjourn.

(A recess was taken from 1245 to 1400 hours.)

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Official transcript of the International Military Tribunal in the matter of The United States of America, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics against Hermann Wilhelm Goering et al, Defendants, sitting at Nurnberg, Germany, on 19 February 1946, 1400-1700, Lord Justice Lawrence presiding.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: Gentlemen, the same picture of organized plundering of the murdered persons was ascertained by the commission during the investigation of Maidanek. I will not quote in full this part of the communique of the Polish-Soviet Extraordinary Commission, and will quote only one excerpt of the administration of the SS which is contained in the communique of the Polish-Soviet Extraordinary Commission, and which the Tribunal will find on page 66 of the document book, first column of the text, third paragraph. I quote:

"To all the commandants of concentration camps:

"According to the declaration of the chief board of state security, all packages of clothing were sent from the concentration camps mainly to the director of the Gestapo of the town of Brudno, and it appeared that in several cases these articles of clothing were shot through and spattered with blood. A part of these packages was damaged, and that is how strangers had the possibility of ascertaining the contents of these packages. As the chief board of state security will, in the near future, promulgate a charter regulating the problem of articles remaining after the death of internees, it is ordered to stop immediately the sending of these articles until this problem is definitely solved--the problem of articles of clothing remaining after the execution of the internees.

"Signed: Gluecks, SS Brigadefuehrer and Major General of the Waffen SS."

I pass on to the presenting of proof testifying to the scale of the crimes committed.

In two camps of death alone the criminals annihilated 5 1/2 million people. I quote the conclusions of the Extraordinary State Commission for Auschwitz. I will quote only a short excerpt, which is preceded by a detailed enumeration. The Tribunal will find this reference on page 356 of the document book, second column of the text, fourth paragraph. I quote:

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"However, adopting corrective coefficients for the non-filling of the crematorium ovens, the technical expert commission has ascertained that during the period of existence of the Auschwitz camp the German henchmen exterminated in it no less than 4 million citizens of the USSR, Poland, France, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Holland, Belgium, and other countries."

I quote the corresponding item of the Polish-Soviet Commission concerning Maidanek. The Tribunal will find this reference on page 66 of the document book, second column, sixth paragraph:

"The Polish-Soviet Extraordinary Commission has ascertained that during the four years' existence of the extermination camp at Maidanek the Hitlerite henchmen, following the direct order of their criminal government, have exterminated by mass shooting and mass killing in gas chambers approximately 1 1/2 million persons, Soviet prisoners of war, prisoners of war of the former Polish Army, and citizens of various nationalities--Poles, Frenchmen, Italians, Belgians, Dutch, Czechs, Greeks, Croats, and a large number of Jews."

I conclude by these documents the count entitled "Concentration Camps", and pass to the last part of my statement, which concerns the concealing of the traces of crimes.

During their temporary military successes, the German fascist criminals did not occupy themselves very much with the concealing of their crimes. They did not even consider it necessary to camouflage the burial grounds in which they hurled the bodies of the murdered persons after the shootings. But after the defeat which the Hitlerite war machine suffered at Stalingrad, the situation changed.

Fearing retaliation, the criminals began to adopt urgent measures in order to conceal the traces of their crimes. Wherever it was possible they burned the bodies. Where this could not be done, the burial grounds were carefully camouflaged with moss or green foliage. The earth which covered the graves of those shot was smoothed out with special machines and with tractors. However the main method adopted by the German fascist criminals for the camouflage of their crimes was certainly the burning of the corpses.

The ashes from the bodies of those burned were strewn over the fields. The bones which had not been calcinated by the flames were crushed in special

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machines and mixed with manure for the preparation of fertilizing products. In large camps the crushed bones of the dead were sold to German firms to be transformed into phosphate.

I shall submit to the Tribunal as evidence of the enormous scale of the criminal activity of the Hitlerites, in view of the concealing of the trace of their crimes, a series of documents. I will refer, first of all, to the communique of the Polish-Soviet Extraordinary Commission for Maidanek. This document is submitted to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 29. The part of the communique to which I refer will be found by the Tribunal on page 65, second column of the text, last paragraph. In order to shorten my statement, I will allow myself to summarize the contents of this communique.

In the beginning of 1942, two ovens for the burning of corpses were built. I quote:

"As there were a great many corpses, the Germans, in 1942, began building, and by autumn of 1943 had concluded the building of powerful crematoria consisting of five ovens. These ovens burned unceasingly. The temperature in these ovens could reach 1,500 degrees. In order to be able to put as many bodies as possible into the ovens, the latter were dissected, and onehacked off the members." I skip the next paragraph and beg the Tribunal to pay attention to that part which is three paragraphs away.

The five ovens proved to be insufficient, and one was compelled to resort to special primitive crematorium installations, which were organized in the following way:

Upon the rails and on the axles of the cars which served as wagons, one placed boards; then on the boards, corpses; then again boards; and then again corpses. Thus, 500 to 1,000 corpses could be laid on one pile. All that was covered with liquid fuel and lit up.

I quote a short excerpt which ascertains the scale of these crimes:

"The Commission has ascertained that alone in the ovens of the crematoria more than 600,000 corpses were burnt. On the gigantic bonfires in the Krimpetz Woods more than 300,000 corpses were burnt. In the two old ovens more than 80,000 corpses were burnt. And finally, on the bonfires in the camp itself, near the crematoria, not less than 400,000 corpses were burnt."

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As a proof of this same feature, that is to say, of the scale of the criminal activity of the Hitlerites in Europe concealing the trace of their crimes, I refer now to the report of the Extraordinary State Commission for the town of Minsk. The Tribunal will find this quotation on page 215, second column and fourth paragraph of the document book. I quote a short excerpt:

"In the hamlet of Glagovtchina, 34 ditch burial grounds were discovered. They were camouflaged with twigs and branches. Some of the graves reached a length of 50 meters. During a partial excavation of five of these graves, at a depth of 3 meters below the surface of the ground calcinated corpses and a layer of cinders 50 centimeters or 1 meter thick was discovered. Near the graves the Commission discovered a great number of small human bones, hair, false teeth, and a number of small articles of personal use. The investigation has ascertained that here the fascists exterminated up to 150,000 persons.

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"At a distance of 450 meters from the former hamlet of Petrashkevechi eight graves have been discovered. Their size is 21 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 5 meters deep. Before every ditch or grave there are enormous piles of ashes remaining from the burning of the corpses."

I now refer to the report of the Extraordinary State Commission concerning the Crimes of the German Fascist Usurpers in the Lvov region. This document has already been submitted to the Tribunal as Soviet Exhibit 6. I quote a very short excerpt from this document. The part which I will quote will be found by the Tribunal on page 60, second column, fourth paragraph of the document. I begin my quotation:

"Upon the order of the Reich Minister Himmler and of Major General of the SS Police Katzmann, in the month of June 1943, special measures, in view of the exhumation and burning of the corpses of murdered peaceful citizens, were carried out. In Lvov the Germans created a special Sonderkommando No. 1005. The chief of this kommando was Hauptsturmbannfuehrer Scherlack. His assistant was Hauptsturmbannfuehrer Rauch. The duty of this Sonderkommando was to exhume the corpses of the shot civilians and prisoners of war and the burning of these corpses."

I dwell on this extract, as I would beg the Tribunal to remember this number, Sonderkommando No. 1005. This kommando was the prototype of similar sonderkommandos created by the Germans. Later, the sonderkommandos created in view of this objective received the numbers of 1005A, 1005B, etc.

I conclude this quotation with the conclusion of the medical-legal experts, page 340 of the Russian text:

"Thus the Hitlerite murderers on the territory of the Lvov District adopted the same methods of concealing their crimes which they began earlier upon murdering the Polish officers in the Katyn Wood."

The experts ascertain complete similitude of the camouflage methods of the graves which were in the Lisenitzki Forest and of those of the Polish officers at Katyn.

In view of the broadening of the expedient of the burning of persons and corpses, the Germans created in Lvov, in the Yanov Camp, a special school for the preparation of so-called qualified murderers. The commandants of the camps

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of Lublin, Cracow and other towns, underwent a short course instruction in these camps. The chief of the Sonderkommando No.1005, Scherlack, taught the commandants on the spot how to organize the exhumation of the corpses from the graves, how to pile them on stacks, how to burn them, how to spray the ashes, how to squash the bones, how to camouflage the graves, and how to grow green foliage on these graves.

I now refer to a document which has already been submitted to the Tribunal, USSR Exhibit 61, which is the act of the examination after the crushing of bones in the town of Lvov. This act will be found by the Tribunal on page 473 of the document book. As I have very little time left at my disposal, I will only quote very short excerpts. I quote:

"The machine for the crushing of calcinated bones was fitted together upon a special order. The machine is easily transported to any point without there being a need to take it to pieces, with the aid of a car or some other transport means." I skip the next paragraph.

"The machine can work in any chosen spot and need not be specially prepared to that effect. The transportation is carried out by car or by tractors. The machine of these dimensions can produce 3 cubic meters of calcinated bone powder." I skip the next four pages of the document, and submit to the Tribunal as evidence the original protocol of the examination which was carried out by American Army Lieutenant Patrick McMahon.

The examined witness was Gerhart Adamitz. I dwell on this document, which has been put at our disposal by our American colleagues. The statement of Adamitz constitutes corroborating evidence with regard to our documents and evidence. This statement is very lengthy, and I will only make a few short quotations.

Gerhart Adamitz was a member of Sonderkommando 1005 A. I draw the attention of the Tribunal to the fact that the first sonderkommando was simply 1005, and this one is kommando 1005A. The name is Adamitz. The excerpt which I shall quote will be found by the Tribunal on page 480 of the document book, beginning with the second paragraph. Gerhart Adamitz said that, together with four other members of the Schutzpolizei, he left today for Petrovsk and was sent to Kiev. I remind the Tribunal of the name of Bashiar,

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which the Tribunal has already heard. I quote the statements of Adamitz, page 347 of the Russian text:

"Our Lieutenant, Vinitzi, told about our column to Oberleutnant Hanisch, who was the troop fuehrer of the Schutzpolizei of the group 1005A. This place smelled of corpses. We felt faint and closed our noses and tried not to breathe. Oberleutnant Hanisch made a speech."

I read excerpts of this speech:

"'You have come to this place where you will have to serve and support your comrades. You already smell this odor, which originates from the kitchen, which is behind us. You must all be used to this, and you must fulfil your duties. We will have to guard internees and do so very strictly. Everything that takes place here is the secret affair of the empire of the Reich. Every-one of us answers with is head if ever an internee succeeds in escaping, and, besides t is, this man will be submitted to a special regime. The same fate awaits anyone who blurts out anything or who is not careful enough as to what he says.'"

I skip a few paragraphs and continue:

"After this speech of Lieutenant Hanisch, we were led out so as to acquaint ourselves with the place where we were to serve. We left the cemetery and were brought to a neighboring field. The road which crossed this field was guarded on both sides by policemen, who chased away all those who sought to approach it. In the field we saw about 100 internees resting from work. The legs of each internee were chained with chains about $3\frac{1}{2}$ meters long. The internees were dressed in civilian clothes."

I skip the third paragraph of the report and continue:

"The work of the internees consisted, as we found out later, in exhuming corpses which were buried here in two common graves, to transport them, and to pile them up in enormous piles and burn them. It is difficult to ascertain; however, I believe that in this spot were buried from forty to fifty thousand persons. In one anti-tank ditch they had dug out a grave which was partially filled with corpses. This ditch was 100 meters long, 10 meters wide, and 4 to 5 meters deep." I interrupt my quotation, and continue with the last paragraph of the Russian text:

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"On the day that we arrived, that is to say, on the 10th of September 1943, there were three or four small piles of corpses on the field." It is interesting to see what this fascist expert understood by the words 'small piles'.

"Every such pile consisted of about 700 corpses. It was about 7 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2 meters high." I interrupt my quotation and continue on the next page of the Russian text:

"Here and in other places I observed the following methods of burning the corpses which were adopted:

"With the aid of iron hooks, the corpses were dragged to certain spots and then piled on a wooden platform. Then the pile of corpses was surrounded with logs. One poured benzene on it and then they were burnt.

"The policemen of our detachment were then led back from the cemetery to the kitchen. However, not one of us could sit down and eat because of the terrible smell and because of all we had seen."

Although the text is very interesting, I have to interrupt this quotation and continue it on page 351, second paragraph of the Russian text. I quote this excerpt, as in the report of the Kiev Extraordinary Commission I already had the honor to report to the Tribunal about the statements of internees who had fled from these kommandos.

In the statement of Adamitz we find full confirmation of these internees' statements. I only bring a short quotation:

"About the 29th of October, 1943, at 4.45 a.m., during dense fog, 13 internees escaped. They tore off their foot chains, rushed out of their barracks with shouts, and ran away in different directions. Six of them were shot; the others succeeded in escaping, thanks to the fog." I interrupt my quotation.

I beg the Tribunal to pay attention to the fact that as soon as the work was concluded the internees were murdered. As confirmation of this I qote another excerpt from Adamitz' statement, page 352 of the Russian text:

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"In other places where I serv as guard the internees, after work had been concluded, were murdered after they had been brought under the escort of the SD to a determined s t in groups or alone. Then the policemen sent back to bring along further internees. After this the members of the SD compelled the internees to lie, face down, on a wooden platform, and were shot in the nape of the neck. The internees in doubtful cases obeyed this order without resistance, lying down next to their comrades who had already been shot."

I draw the attention of the Tribunal to the further career of the sondercommando, 1005-B. You will find a confirmation of this in the same statement. This sondercommandant served in Karoylov, in Nickoliav, at Breznikenz, an in Riga; That is to say, she followed the route from the Black Sea to the Baltic countries; that is to say, a distance of 7,000 kilometers. Everywhere she carried out the same duties and carried out the same work. In confirmation of t s I will quote only a short excerpt regarding the last stage of the commander's work in Riga. Page 357 of the statement.

"We members of commando 1005-B received an order to go to several newly built barracks which were situated about 250 meters from six or seven mass graves." I quote precisely this part, as the Tribunal will see this scene in the documentary film. The latter were situated about four kilometers from the suburbs of Riga. The publication mentioned the Bikernest Forest where there was about ten to twelve thousand corpses. A fresh group of fifty or sixty internees was brought there, and in the beginning of June 1944 work began; the exhumation and burning of corpses in the same way as I described at the be inning of my statement, and this work was concluded at th end of July 1944. I believe that at that period the front was only about 300 kilometers away. These ten t twelve thousand cor ses were those of men, women, and children of all ages, d were buried about two years ago.

I remind the Tribunal that extracts from the report of the Extraordinary Commission, which I quoted, mentioned the date of the shooting as the beginning of 1942, and thisproves that this evidence is corroborating eviden

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"We policemen in general thought that these people had been shot by the SS. However, it was only a supposition, for a fresh group of fifty to sixty internees were murdered at the end of July 1944."

I skip the last part of the document and will only quote a short excerpt, which is the conclusion of Gerhard Adamitz's statement. Page 159 of the Russian text.

"We thought subsequently that in reality the Nazis were afraid that the discovery of the mass graves discovered by the victorious Russians, -- that these mass killings would become known to the civilized world. I believe that about 100,000 corpses from mass graves were exhumed by the liberators from the SD, sonderkommando 1005-A and B. I believe that also other similar commandos fulfilled the same work, but they do not know how many. If I had thought or known that I would ever be compelled to carry out this dirty and humiliating work I would have probably immigrated somewhere."

I skip to a further concluding paragraph of the statement signed "Gerhard Adamitz."

Before submitting to the Tribunal the last count of my statement, I beg the Tribunal to allow me a few introductory words. The murder of several million people was carried out by the German-Fascists out of motives which were dictated by their mankind-hating theories of Nazism and of the right of domination over and the extermination of peoples. All these killings were carefully thought out. All the precedents were carried out at determined dates. Moreover, as I showed many times before, for the mass killings and for the concealing of the traces of their crimes there was created a special technique. But except that, in many crimes carried out by the German-Fascists there is one common trait which makes them even more hateful. In many cases the Germans, after having exterminated their victims, did not cease the crimes thereupon; but pursued them, making the corpses objects of their criminal jeering and mockery. Mockery of the corpses of their victims was a characteristic trait.

I will now report to the Tribunal that the bones which had not been calcinated were sold by the German-Fascists to the firm Stremm. The hair of the murdered women was cut off, packed into sacks, and sent to Germany.

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Among these crimes we find those which I will nowsubmit as evidence.

I already testified, proved previously, that among the methods of concealing the traces of their crimes was the burning of the corpses. Then the fiendish SS technical minds which created the gas wagons and wagons of death began working upon the creation of such methods of complete extermination of human bodies according to which the concealing of traces of the crimes would coincide with the production of certain products. In the Danzig laboratories were already carried out semi-industrial skin experiments in view of the production of soap made out of human bodies and the utilization of human skin for industrial purposes.

I submit to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 197 the evidence of an immediate eye-witness of the fabrication of soap from human fat; an assistant of the Danzig laboratory, Sigmund Mausel. It is a rather long excerpt, but I think I will have time to read it before the end.

"Q Tell us how soap was cooked out of human fat at the Anatomical Institute of the town of Danzig.

"A Near the Anatomical Institute, in the courtyard, during the summer of 1943, a one-story stone building of three rooms was built. This building was built for the utilization of human bodies and for the boiling of bones. This was officially proclaimed by Professor Spanner. This laboratory was called a laboratory for the fabrication of skeletons and for the burning of meat and unnecessary bones. But already during the winter of 1943-44 Professor Spanner ordered us to collect human fats and not to throw it away. This order was given to Reichert Borgmann. The month of February 1944 Professor Spanner gave me the recipe for the preparation of soap from human fat. This recipe ordered the collection of five kilos of human fat which was mixed with ten litres of water and 500 or 1,000 grams of caustic soda. All this was to be boiled two or three hours and then cooled. The soap floats to the surface and the water remains in the bottom of the pail. To this mixture was added a pinch of salt and soda. Then fresh water was added, and the mixture was again boiled two or three hours. After having cooled off the soap was poured into shape."

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I will allow myself to present to the Tribunal the forms which were used for this soap. I submit to the Tribunal this mold as USSR Exhibit 193. I continue the quotation.

"The soap had a disagreeable odor. In order to destroy this disagreeable odor, Bilzo was added. The preparation of this soap from human fat began in the month of January 1944."

I skip the next part of the quotation.

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"The bodies were brought from Koenigsberg Prison; from the psychiatric hospital. I do not remember the number of persons. Besides, there was a large stock of bodies in the Anatomical Institute; about four hundred of them. The greater part of these bodies were decapitated. The beheaded bodies originated from the prison where they had been guillotined."

I skip the next paragraph where the witness testifies how the corpses were brought. This is of no importance. I continue the quotation on page 1063 of the Russian text.

"The fat was collected from the human bodies and brought to me and Reichert I boiled the soap out of the bodies of women and men. When this was cooking -- it took about three to seven days. Out of two processes in which I took a personal part, more than twenty-five kilograms of soap were fabricated. And moreover, from these processes we had collected seventy to eighty kilograms of human fat from about forty bodies. The soap then went to processer Spanner, who kept it personally. The work for the production of soap from human bodies has, as far as I know, commenced for the Hitlerite Government in the Anatomical Institute. The Anatomical Institute was visited by the Minister of Education, the Minister of Health, Doctor Conti, the gauleiter of Danzig, Albert Forster, as well as professors from other medical institutes. For my personal needs, for toilet and for laundering, I used this human soap. I took personally four kilograms of this soap."

I skip the paragraph and continue. "Reichert, Borgmann, Conran Stein, and our chief professor, Spanner, also personally used this soap."

And I end this quotation on page 365 of the Russian text. I quote you one paragraph which concerns the industrial exploitation of this process." In the same way as they treated human fat, Professor Spanner ordered us to collect human skin, which after having been cleaned of fat was submitted to the effect of certain chemical products. The production of human skin was carried out under the direction of the chief assistant, von Baden, and Professor Spanner himself. This skin was packed in a box and was used for experimentation which I do not know."

I now submit to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 196 the copy of the recipe for the production of human fat for soap. I will not dwell on this recipe which is identical to that which has already been described in Mausel's testimony. But

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the proof that this testimony was exact the Tribunal will find in Mausel's statement, which has already been submitted to the Tribunal, and which is USSR 197. I will not mention it.

"I now submit to the Tribunal two documents which have only been given to us by the British prosecution; two statements given under oath; statements of two British soldiers; one a soldier of the Essex Regiment, John Picken. This is Soviet Exhibit Nos. 263 and 264. The Tribunal will find this in the document book on page 395. I quote a very short excerpt from this article as time allows me.

"The corpses were brought to us, seven to eight every day. All of them were decapitated and stripped. Sometimes they were brought to us in Red Cross cars, in wooden cases, which contained five to six corpses. Sometimes three to four corpses. They were brought to us in small trucks."

I skip the next sentence.

"The corpses were usually unloaded as quickly as possible and taken down into the cellar, which was entered from a side door to the main entrance hall of the institute."

I skip the next sentence.

"Then they were put into large metal containers where they were then left for approximately four months.

I skip the next three sentences and continue the quotation.

"Owing to the preservative mixture in which they were stored, the tissue came away from the bones very easily. This tissue was then put into a boiler about the size of a small kitchen table. After boiling the liquid it was put into white trays about twice the size of a sheet of foolscap and about three centimeters deep. Like these which I have shown the Tribunal, usually three to four trayfulls were obtained per day from the machine." This witness did not see himself the utilization of the soap, but I am submitting to the Tribunal as USSR Exhibit 722 the written statement of the British Government, a corporal of the Royal Signals, William Anderson Nealey. The Tribunal will find this excerpt on page 498 of the document book.

"The corpses arrived at the rate of two or three per day. All of them were naked and most of them had been beheaded." I submit this quotation and skip two

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two paragraphs and continue the quotation.

"The construction of the machine for the preparation of soap was completed some time in March or April 1944. The building of the building where this machine was supposed to be was completed in June of 1942. The machine itself was installed by a civilian firm in Danzig by the name of Arrd, which was not connected with war production. As far as I remember, it consisted of an electrically heated tank in which the bones of the corpses were mixed with some acid and melted down. This process of melting took about twenty-four hours. The fat portions of the corpses and particularly those of females was put into a crude enamel tank, heated by a couple of Belsen burners. Some acid was also used for this purpose. I believe that this was caustic soda. When boiling had been completed, the mixture was allowed to cool and then was cut into blocks and used for ammunition. I can not estimate exactly the quantity produced, but I saw it used by Danzigers in cleaning tables in the dissecting room. The people who used this soap assured me that this was the best soap for this object."

I submit semi-manufactured soap and completely manufactured soap. This is a small piece of ready soap. When this remains in your possession a few months it reminds you of quite ordinary household soap.

I now submit to the Tribunal the examples of half-worked out human skin. The examples which I now quote show that the process of propagating soap was already completely achieved. As that concerns skin, the skin completely manufactured is the one on the left side of the tablet. One can consider that as far as the industrial fabrication of soap is concerned, experiments in the Danzig labpratory as to the fabrication of skin being carried out, and the extraordinary advance of the Red Army put an end to this crime of the Nazis.

Gentlemen, I have now only to submit to you the last, which concerns the war crimes against inhabitants of citizens of the USSR. Besides, certain witnesses will arrive here from the Soviet Union concerning the counts which I have treated. I will beg the permission of the Tribunal to examine these witnesses when further statements will be made by our prosecution. Before submitting a last proof, I beg the Tribunal to allow me to make a few conclusive remarks which will take only a few minutes.

The lengthy list of crimes against civilian populations of the temporarily occupied territories of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, and

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Greece cannot be exhausted in one vast statement. One can only choose a few very typical cases of cruel, base, and systematic methods adopted by the main criminals who had conceived these crimes, as well as those who carried out these crimes. Those who are now on the Defendants' bench freed the chimera which they called conscience of hundreds and thousands and millions of criminals. They educated these criminals and created for them an atmosphere of impunity, and drove their blood-thirsty hounds against peaceful citizens. These mocked the conscience and dignity of man.

But those who were poisoned in gas wagons and gas cells, those who were torn to shreds, those whose bodies were burned in the ovens of crematoriums and whose ashes were blown to the winds, appeal to the conscience of the world. We cannot now name, only number, the places where millions were vilely murdered, but on the damp walls of the gas chambers, in the shooting places, in the throes of death, in the stone grounds of the prisons we can now still read the short notes of the condemned people who called for retribution, and feel deep sorrow. And let the live ones remember these voices of the victims of German-Fascist terror, who inscribed on the walls, who appealed before their death for justice and for retribution. As a last proof I submit to the Tribunal the commentary and the sworn affidavit of the documentary film. I beg the Tribunal to accept this documentary film as proof of evidence. I also beg the Tribunal to allow, if possible, a short recess; about ten minutes.

(A recess was taken.)

COLONEL SMIRNOV: May I have your permission to now present documentary evidence?

(The film entitled, "The Atrocities by the German-Fascist Aggressors," presented by the Soviet Union, was shown.)

THE PRESIDENT: Have you finished your address?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: I have finished the presentation of my evidence.

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THE PRESIDENT: Can you inform the Tribunal how much longer the Soviet Delegation is likely to be?

COLONEL SMIRNOV: The Soviet Prosecution as a whole?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

COLONEL SMIRNOV: I am afraid I cannot give you the exact information on it. I will ask my colleague, General Rudenko.

GENERAL RUDENKO: Tomorrow we shall begin the presentation of evidence on spoilation and pillage of communal and prvate property, and we think that the Prosecutor presenting this part of the question will finish or conclude it tomorrow.

Then there will be presented to the Tribunal the evidence as to destruction of cities, villages, monuments of natural culture, and art. That will take approximately a day and a half. In other words I mean a full session, a full day of the session on Thursday and a half of a day on the next day. During the presentation of this evidence we will have to present also the documentary film.

Then there will be presented evidence concerning enslavement. This section will take approximately three to four hours. The final section will be Crimes against Humanity; and during the presentation of the evidence in all the sections, with the permission of the Tribunal, we shall call several witnesses.

I could not present to the Tribunal today a list of the witnesses, because it has connected with it difficulties of bringing the witnesses here in Nurnberg. This list will be formulated tomorrow towards the end of the session. Altogether, as a resume, I consider that the entire presentation will conclude either Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

THE PRESIDENT: We will adjourn now.

(The Tribunal adjourned until 20 February, 1946, at 10.00 hours.)